

once these the coyotes get them across the river, then they go looking for somebody to turn themselves in to.

I was there when there were different groups being processed out there in the open air; daytime, nighttime. So they are asking them questions, as their job requires, such as, Where are you from? You have got to get their names. They don't have any identification on them. They are strictly taking their names as they give it to them.

One adult woman who had a couple of little girls with her said, Well, I'm not the mother, but I'm the cousin of the mother. Well, where's the mother? She's got a good job in Miami.

She came in illegally some time back and she has been working in Miami. So since they can now come and stay here, this was the time to start bringing the kids in.

The other two women were mothers of the other children there and they were explaining that the fathers of those children were working. They had good jobs in North Carolina. And since all they had to do was get into the United States and Homeland Security or Health and Human Services would transport them—our government is now becoming human traffickers—they have become the human traffickers and take them to North Carolina, where the fathers have good jobs working illegally over there. But, again, since they saw it as a free pass, then this is the time to try to hurry into the United States.

What was particularly telling, Mr. Speaker—I don't have it with me here on the floor today—is that there was a request, a solicitation from the Obama administration back at the end of January that actually says that we anticipate in the next short months that we may have 65,000 children come across our border.

Now why would they think that? Because there were only a fraction of that many the year before, and then a fraction of that many the year before that. So why would they think all of a sudden there are going to be over 60,000 children coming in in the months ahead?

Well, they knew. The word is out in Central America and South America that if you just get to this country, the Obama administration is giving you a free pass.

The women in the last group that the Border Patrol were talking to out there after they had turned themselves in, they had not heard the word “permisos,” but they knew they got a free pass. They knew they got to stay. And they said, We're here because we want these children to get a good education.

And since we know they can stay—in effect, that is what they are saying—now is the time they come and get a good education.

Well, we want everybody to get a good education. Unfortunately, if we in this country take tax dollars from Americans who are working and tried

to pay for the education of every single child in the entire world—which I would love to do—but if we do that, it bankrupts this country and no child gets any kind of education.

It is a dangerous time. It is a dangerous situation for these children to be coming across our border. In those areas the bush is thick, the river is swift. It is deep there where so many of them were crossing.

And yet because this administration has the word out and it is being sent out by drug cartels—being advertised, is what we keep hearing—the drug cartels have the best of all business worlds. They actually will charge \$5,000. One lady got a real deal. She got two kids and herself for \$5,000. For others, it is generally \$5,000 a person. For some, it is \$8,000.

The drug cartels charge people to bring them up across Mexico into United States. And if they find an attractive girl, they may pull her off into sex slavery and make money off of her. Having three daughters myself, that idea is just abominable.

Then, because of the masses of people that are coming across in greater and greater numbers, we have Border Patrol and ICE that are pulled away from their regular jobs. They are not out there looking for the drugs.

So you have got drug cartels making money by charging people to bring them into America, and then that causes a problem for us to enforce our border against drugs, and they can get more drugs in.

There is a war against the United States being staged by the drug cartels, and this administration better wake up and better start doing its job. I know my friends here on the Republican side, if the administration will start enforcing the law and enforcing our border and protecting us from the massive amount of drugs that are coming in, and enforce the border, we will get an immigration reform bill done so fast, people will be amazed how quickly we get it done.

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There is no sense at all doing an immigration reform bill right now when the President is ignoring the enforcement of the law the way it is. The President needs to enforce the law as it is. Once he does that, then we can talk about amending it.

In the meantime, very quickly here, I had a quote from the President on June 11. He was saying:

I mean, the truth of the matter is, that for all the challenges we face and for all the problems we have, if you had to choose a moment to be born in human history, not knowing what your position was going to be or who you were going to be, you would choose this time. The world is less violent than it has ever been. It is healthier than it has ever been. It is more tolerant than it has ever been. It is better than it has ever been. It is more educated than it has ever been.

Then I thought about this cartoon, Mr. Speaker, and I will finish with this. In effect, we borrowed the cartoon

here, but it is like the President has gone off a cliff, and all of the way down, he is able to say, “We are doing all right so far.”

The day is coming when the country will not do all right—when there will be a crash—because we failed to recognize the dangers on the way down.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### HOWARD BAKER, A LIFE WELL LIVED

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I have unfortunate news. We have lost a great American and a great Tennessean, Senator Howard Baker, Jr.

Senator Baker passed away today. Howard Baker served this country well, and he served it in a fashion that was worthy of admiration from both parties and all people because he was an American first, a Tennessean second, and a Republican third.

He served three terms in the United States Senate. He served as majority leader and minority leader. He served as the United States Ambassador to Japan, and he served as Chief of Staff to President Ronald Reagan. He was a private practicing attorney as well, at the firm Baker Donelson, which was a firm his grandfather started, and he practiced law at one time with his father, who served in this House as a United States Representative from Tennessee.

Howard Baker had been recognized since his retirement from the Senate on many occasions. He received the Presidential Medal of Freedom and had received other awards.

His was a life well lived and a life to be demonstrated to others as a role for legislators to work with both sides of the aisle and to work for America first. A life well lived, Howard Baker.

#### QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR OUR VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I certainly don't intend to take that much time, but in a few short minutes, we are going to break for the July Fourth recess, and I just wanted to come forward on behalf of the veterans of the United States and make the commitment to them that the House and the Senate are going to continue to work to resolve the issues that we have heard so much about.

I would like to share, if I could, before we go, two stories from veterans of their wait times and neglect that my office has worked to try to help resolve.

I am hopeful, when we come back, we are able to get to a resolution for these

men and women who fought for and died for this country, so that we can have that July Fourth Independence Day.

The following stories come from my district. They are stories that we have worked on in our office. They haven't made national headlines, but they are very similar to others that have made national headlines.

The first is of the gentleman, Mr. Michael Whitley, from Ocilla. He was a 100 percent service-connected disabled veteran with cancer. He was unable to receive that cancer treatment at the VA medical center where he received his primary care, so he had to travel about three-and-a-half hours to a different facility, even though there was an outstanding cancer treatment facility just 30 minutes away from his home.

As his condition worsened and as it became more difficult for him to travel, Mr. Whitley's primary care facility promised to approve fee-based treatment, which would be closer to home. Unfortunately, Mr. Whitley died before this care that was closer to home was approved.

The second story comes from a 12-page letter—a very heart-wrenching letter—of a 3-year-long case that our office has been working on to resolve. It is of Mr. Willis McCarty, from Moultrie, Georgia.

He visited his VA primary care provider in February of 2009 for an aortic abdominal aneurysm. His doctor found that the aneurysm measured 7.8 centimeters, requiring immediate surgery. To quote Mr. McCarty, "He told me I was a walking time bomb and that I needed immediate surgery."

Mr. McCarty was referred for a surgery consultation at another VA facility, and he went to the appointment under the impression that he would be admitted for that surgery.

The vascular surgeon, instead, sent him home and rescheduled the surgery for a later date. Mr. McCarty writes that the doctor said, "We do not see any immediate danger. We think your doctor overreacted, and we are going to send you home for 10 days."

Upon returning home, the aneurysm ruptured. Mr. McCarty was rushed to the hospital for emergency surgery, where he remained hospitalized for 2 months due to complications.

To quote Mr. McCarty, "Before they took me into surgery, they had to use the paddles on me two times. My heart stopped for over 2 minutes. While in surgery, a ventilator was placed down into my lungs to breathe for me. I was in surgery for 6 hours. After the surgery was completed and I was rolled into the ICU, the surgeon told the nurses, 'This is a miracle boy, and I want to keep it that way.' I was in ICU for about 3 weeks with the ventilator in my lungs the entire time. While in ICU, one of my lungs collapsed, and I developed pneumonia. I was going through hell and didn't even know I was in this world. I was in the hospital about 6 weeks."

After his stay, Mr. McCarty received a phone call from the chief of staff at the hospital and from a VA representative, apologizing and admitting guilt on behalf of the VA, assuring him his expenses would be paid and that "the doctor should have never sent me back home."

They advised him to file a tort claim, and they even mailed him the forms to use in filing the claim.

Mr. McCarty writes, "Just the hospital bill was about \$125,000. That is not including the bill from the two surgeons, pathology, x-ray, et cetera."

Mr. McCarty has been paying these bills out of pocket, monthly, since 2009, for 5 years. The VA continues to deny his claims, and to this date, the VA has paid nothing. They also continue to deny Mr. McCarty's disability claims, and Mr. McCarty's appeal process will likely take another 3 years. Mr. McCarty is 77.

In his letter, Mr. McCarty writes, "I feel like the VA is giving me the run-around," and "I served my country. I've done my duty and was proud and honored to do it."

In return for Mr. McCarty's 8 years of service, he has spent 5 years dealing with this medical trauma and now expects to spend another 3 years in appeals. Every month, he pays the surgeons and the hospital for a surgery and complications that the VA is responsible for.

Mr. Speaker, most of the time, when we are working with these veterans, they ask us to fix this for one simple reason: fix it so the next soldier doesn't have to go through this—not for me—but so that the next soldier doesn't have to go through this.

We need to resolve these issues for our veterans, and we need to resolve them now. They deserve better.

I want to thank our House VA Committee, under the leadership of Chairman JEFF MILLER, as well as the Democrats and the Republicans on that committee, for the work they have done and are doing to make that system better.

Before we break for the July Fourth Independence Day holiday, I want to make the commitment on behalf of my colleagues in the House of Representatives that, while we will be gone from Washington for a week, we will continue to work on these issues in order to help resolve them for our veterans.

I wish each and every one of you a happy Independence Day. Whether you fly the flag in your yard or wear the patch on your shoulder or just keep it in your heart, thank you, and God bless America.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 54 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 30, 2014, at 11:30 a.m.

#### OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Members executed the oath for access to classified information:

Robert B. Aderholt, Rodney Alexander\*, Justin Amash, Mark E. Amodei, Robert E. Andrews\*, Michele Bachmann, Spencer Bachus, Ron Barber, Lou Barletta, Garland "Andy" Barr, John Barrow, Joe Barton, Karen Bass, Joyce Beatty, Xavier Becerra, Dan Benishek, Kerry L. Bentivolio, Ami Bera, Gus M. Bilirakis, Rob Bishop, Sanford D. Bishop, Jr., Timothy H. Bishop, Diane Black, Marsha Blackburn, Earl Blumenauer, John A. Boehner, Suzanne Bonamici, Jo Bonner\*, Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Charles W. Boustany, Jr., Kevin Brady, Robert A. Brady, Bruce L. Braley, Jim Bridenstine, Mo Brooks, Susan W. Brooks, Paul C. Broun, Corrine Brown, Julia Brownley, Vern Buchanan, Larry Bucshon, Michael C. Burgess, Cheri Bustos, G. K. Butterfield, Bradley Byrne, Ken Calvert, Dave Camp, John Campbell, Eric Cantor, Shelley Moore Capito, Lois Capps, Michael E. Capuano, Tony Cardenas, John C. Carney, Jr., André Carson, John R. Carter, Matt Cartwright, Bill Cassidy, Kathy Castor, Joaquin Castro, Steve Chabot, Jason Chaffetz, Donna M. Christensen, Judy Chu, David N. Cicilline, Katherine M. Clark, Yvette D. Clarke, Curt Clawson, Wm. Lacy Clay, Emanuel Cleaver, James E. Clyburn, Howard Coble, Mike Coffman, Steve Cohen, Tom Cole, Chris Collins, Doug Collins, K. Michael Conaway, Gerald E. Connolly, John Conyers, Jr., Paul Cook, Jim Cooper, Jim Costa, Tom Cotton, Joe Courtney, Kevin Cramer, Eric A. "Rick" Crawford, Ander Crenshaw, Joseph Crowley, Henry Cuellar, John Abney Culberson, Elijah E. Cummings, Steve Daines, Danny K. Davis, Rodney Davis, Susan A. Davis, Peter A. DeFazio, Diana DeGette, John K. Delaney, Rosa L. DeLauro, Suzan K. DelBene, Jeff Denham, Charles W. Dent, Ron DeSantis, Scott DesJarlais, Theodore E. Deutch, Mario Diaz-Balart, John D. Dingell, Lloyd Doggett, Michael F. Doyle, Tammy Duckworth, Sean P. Duffy, Jeff Duncan, John J. Duncan, Jr., Donna F. Edwards, Keith Ellison, Renee L. Ellmers, Jo Ann Emerson\*, Elliot L. Engel, William L. Enyart, Anna G. Eshoo, Elizabeth H. Esty, Eni F. H. Faleomavaega, Blake Farenthold, Sam Farr, Chaka Fattah, Stephen Lee Fincher, Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann, John Fleming, Bill Flores, J. Randy Forbes, Jeff Fortenberry, Bill Foster, Virginia Foxx, Lois Frankel, Trent Franks, Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, Marcia L. Fudge, Tulsi Gabbard, Pete P. Gallego, John Garamendi, Joe Garcia, Cory Gardner, Scott Garrett, Jim Gerlach, Bob Gibbs, Christopher P. Gibson, Phil Gingrey, Louie Gohmert, Bob Goodlatte, Paul A. Gosar, Trey Gowdy, Kay Granger, Sam Graves, Tom Graves, Alan Grayson, Al Green, Gene Green, Tim Griffin, H. Morgan Griffith, Raúl M. Grijalva, Michael G. Grimm, Brett Guthrie, Luis V. Gutiérrez, Janice Hahn, Ralph M. Hall, Colleen W. Hanabusa, Richard L. Hanna, Gregg Harper, Andy Harris, Vicky Hartzler, Alcee L. Hastings, Doc Hastings, Denny Heck, Joseph J. Heck, Jeb Hensarling, Jaime Herrera Beutler, Brian Higgins, James A. Himes, Rubén Hinojosa, George Holding, Rush Holt, Michael M. Honda, Steven A. Horsford, Steny H. Hoyer, Richard Hudson, Tim Huelskamp, Jared Huffman, Bill Huizenga, Randy Hultgren, Duncan Hunter, Robert Hurt, Steve Israel, Darrell E. Issa,